



# LARC



Volume 57, Number 4

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation

April 2017



Photo by Greg Dolan II - K5LFT

## AARA President's Message

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Hamfest an incredible success! It was the hard work and dedication of our club members that helped to continue the prestige of the "Largest Hamfest on Gulf Coast." The impact of our Hamfest was evident not only through the verbal praise we received at the event, but also the written feedback that was shared with us even weeks after the event. Again, thank you for helping to make our most significant fundraiser a tremendous success!

I kindly ask that all members please attend the April meeting so we can form working groups to help research, formalize, and bring to life a few common goals amongst our membership. Two that come to mind are an update of our website and the creation of programs geared toward helping new Hams get the most out of the hobby. If you would like to propose an additional goal that the club should consider please contact me or bring it during the general meeting.

Eric Credeur KG5JHP  
AARA President

Email: [eric@ericcredeur.com](mailto:eric@ericcredeur.com)  
Cell: 337-351-5519

### April 2017 General Meeting

The April General Meeting will be held on April 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette Science Museum, 433 Jefferson St., Lafayette, LA. VE Testing will be at 6:00 PM.

**DATES TO REMEMBER****GENERAL MEETING****April 6, 2017 @ 7:00 PM****Lafayette Science Museum  
433 Jefferson St. Lafayette, LA****VE Testing @ 6:00 PM****http://www/w5ddl.org/clubsuite/****Local 2-Meter Nets****Monday****AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
Repeater Rotation - See calendar on  
page 7****Tuesday****Region 4 VHF ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA****Wednesday****Silent Key Memorial Net  
145.410 No PL New Iberia, LA****Thursday****Youth Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA  
EchoLink Node: 370324****AARA OFFICERS 2017 - 2018****President - Eric Credeur KG5JHP  
eric@ericcredeur.com**  
**Vice Pres. - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD**  
**Secretary - Ramona Jobe KG5HNO**  
**Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ****BOARD MEMBERS****Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP  
Chris Ancelet KG5MCY  
Paula Romero KF5CNU  
Youth Member  
Page Romero KG5VPR  
QLS MANAGER  
Roland Guidry - NA5Q****NEWSLETTER EDITOR &  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER  
Herman Campbell - KN5GRK  
337-234-5364 kn5grk@lusfiber.net****AARA REPEATER GROUP  
Charlie Morrison N5WE - Trustee  
Derek Meche WM5TS  
Dave Redfern N4ELM  
Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP****LCARC DELEGATES  
Fred Marshall W5MLE  
Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP****The LARC is published monthly  
by the:  
Acadiana Amateur Radio Associa-  
tion, Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174****MARCH 2, 2017 AARA  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

The March 2<sup>nd</sup> AARA General Meeting was called to order by President Eric Credeur KG5JHP at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette Science Museum.

- ◆ Tom W5OHJ said a opening prayer.
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance recited by all and repeated in Cajun French by Sandy KE5KJF.
- ◆ The February minutes were submitted by Ramona Jobe KG5HNO, and were posted in the March LARC. The minutes were accepted and on motion of Danny Daigle and approved by the Club.
- ◆ Tom Dischler W5OHJ gave the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and on motion of Bob Cooley K5IVR, seconded by Jackie Wallace KF5PCH. While the Financial Report is not published in the LARC, any member may contact Tom Dischler W5OHJ, to request a copy.

**Club Equipment Auction:**

The excess AARA club inventory auction was brought before the membership as listed in a previous e-mail to club members. The auction went well and most items were sold at the March meeting, those items not sold were destined to be put on the club table at the AARA Hamfest on March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Hamfest Preparation:**

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Hamfest Committee Manager, went over a check list to make sure all large and small details were covered along with what duties volunteers will be doing during the hamfest. There was some discussion on what we can do to promote our hamfest attendance such as offering free RV & tailgating.

Pat Soileau ND5C will be the Coordinator for the Forums. On Friday, March 10 there will be an ICS class from 8 am - 2 pm in the Green Room. The Forums are being paid for by a Grant from the ARRL.

Paul McCasland N5KNY will take care of signage and the audio system.

Galen KF5BET, Hamfest Vendor & Table Assignment Chairperson, reports at this time 95 pre-registrations, 35 swap tables sold, and 48 crawfish orders. This is one week before hamfest date.

Sandra Allen XYL of John NØJA/5 will do the Ladies Bingo this year.

Paula Romero KF5CNS and Jackie Wallace KF5PCH will coordinate the HiQ Sweet Shop refreshments and will be needing the following:

- ◆ Ice chests - Bring on Thursday afternoon.
- ◆ Popcorn Machine - Paul McCasland will bring from the Science Museum. Will need help setting up on Friday morning.
- ◆ Sweets - fudge, pralines, brownies, pies, bread, cakes, home canned goods, jellies

**Silent Auction:** Jackie and Paula co-ordinators. Paula showed a small quilt with many Ham Radio embroideries. Beautiful.

Help will be needed to tear down on Saturday afternoon.

Letters were sent to new Techs in Louisiana with a \$2.00 discount to get into the Hamfest.

**Club Baofeng UV-5R SPECIAL:**

A Baofeng UV-5R handheld will be offered to AARA members for \$22.00 which includes programming. Newly licensed amateurs are offered a UV-5R handheld and 1 year membership in the AARA for \$25.00 which includes programming.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 on motion by Ric Wallace KF5KEL, seconded by Derek Meche WM5TS.

There were 45 persons in attendance.

Respectively submitted for Ramona Jobe KG5HNO by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF and edited by Herman Campbell KN5GRK.

**Lafayette 147.040 W5EXI Repeater Update**

The 147.04 repeater is now an AllStar (#44173) and EchoLink node. It's still at the same site, but now has linking capabilities.

As far as the end users are concerned, all you have to do is connect to the W5EXI-R on EchoLink and you're on the 04 repeater. In times of emergencies, it can also be linked to the W5LRN network. This connects the ARES repeaters in the state link system.

For now, I haven't completed all of the codes and such. We still need to define its intended use, regular repeater or emergency. So until then, anyone is free to use it as an EchoLink and regular repeater.

Charlie N5WE



## AARA Hamfest VE Test Session Results



The test session at the Hamfest on March 11 2017 was interesting although we did not have as many testing as I anticipated. I must also apologize to the VE's helping out that signed in on the back of the Test Session Report as I forgot to copy them down in order to mention and thank you in this notice.

With that said, I will mention the VE's whose names are readily available to my memory & the report. They were: Greg K5LFT, Ric KF5KEL, Ray N5LRZ, Terry W5TMP, Scott W5RTO, Galen KF5BET, Gerard KD5VPC, Kirby KI5EE & Mitch KB5TWL. I think possibly two more, sorry.....

Those earning a Technician License were : Edward Boudreaux KG5SIU of Maurice, LA - Joshua P. Cormier KG5SIT of Iota, LA - Cheryl B. Perret KG5SIS of Lafayette, LA - Sandra K. Grimes KG5SIR of Palestine, TX. - Briana L. Copeland KG5SIQ of Lafayette LA, - Monique M. Lambert KG5SIP of Morgan City, LA & Justin A. Bacque KG5SIO of Lafayette, LA.

Those upgrading to General were : Timothy W. Hale KG5SBY of Scott, LA - Wyatt M. McCrary KG5CTA of Shreveport, LA - Laverne D. Humphreys KG5RFP of New Roads, LA & Samuel D. Rock K5MOB of Morgan City, LA.

Those attaining the classification of Amateur Extra were : Theodore E. Forrest IV KB5CQF of Hammond, LA & Our very own Christopher J. Ancelet KG5MCY of Egan, LA.

Congratulations & thanks to all who participated.

73, de GREG – K5LFT



### AARA Makes Donation to the Salvation Army

Ramona Jobe, Salvation Army Soldier and amateur radio operator KG5HNO (center) presents a check to Major Ester James (left) and Major Mel James (right) of the Lafayette Salvation Army on behalf of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

The AARA makes a donation to the Salvation Army each year to help those in need during times of disaster and to help shelter and feed the homeless.

A **SPECIAL THANKS** to the Lafayette Salvation Army for the use of their copy machine to reproduce the monthly issue of the AARA newsletter "LARC". The AARA sends out 25 eight page copies each month.

Hopefully, as renovations are complete, the Salvation Army put their SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) station back on the air using the vanity call K5LSA.

Herman Campbell KN5GRK  
SATERN Liaison



**THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO !**



# AARA 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamfest 2017

## Rayne Civic Center - Rayne, Louisiana

### March 10 & 11, 2017

## HAMFEST RESULTS



On Saturday March 18, a banquet was held celebrating our hamfest success. The banquet was held at 6:00 PM at the Lafayette Science Museum. Each club member was invited to bring a "covered dish", the club provided fried chicken and brisket.

Tom Dischler W5OHJ, opened the event with a prayer of thanks for a great hamfest.

Tom W5OHJ, AARA Treasurer, reported our attendance were slightly down from last year with 553 attending. Raffle ticket sales were slightly down from last year. Bingo income was more than double from last year with 43 paid players. Sweet shop sales were slightly over last year. VE Testing had 17 that tested with four of the new Techs becoming new AARA members. Crawfish sales had 72 orders sold plus some extras that were donated to vendors.

Café CQ sales were up from last year. We had 10 RV spaces occupied.

Tom commented on how well the volunteer worker helped unload and load the vendors vehicles, they worked in well coordinated precision. The vendors appreciated their help.

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Hamfest Committee Chairperson, stated that 10 people took the ICS Training course Friday morning. He also discussed suggestions on how we can promote our hamfest. Some suggestions were:

- ➔ Pass out our flyers at other hamfests.
- ➔ FaceBook & YouTube.
- ➔ Place flyers on Gun Show & Prepper's shows.
- ➔ Contact RV travel groups.
- ➔ Scouting Groups.
- ➔ Announcements on radio nets.

There were quite a few suggestions on how we can take steps to increase or attendance, to many to list at the present time.

A drawing for a Baofeng UV5R took place (see page 5 column 3) and food served.



2017 Hamfest Prize Winners			
	CALL:	NAME:	QTH:
<b>Friday:</b>			
MFJ 259 Antenna Analyzer	KE5PPY	David Oelschlager	Leesville, LA
\$150 Yaesu Gift Certificate	K5SVC	Frank Krize III	Church Hill MS
\$100 Yaesu Gift Certificate	KN5GRK	Herman Campbell	Lafayette, LA
\$100 Yaesu Gift Certificate	WA5ENG	Mark Taylor	Cumby, TX
\$50 ARRL Gift Certificate	W5OHJ	Tom Dischler	Eunice, LA
\$25 ARRL Gift Certificate	K5KKD	Kathleen Kable	Jackson, MS
Movie Basket	N4KJN	Paul Broussard	Porter, TX
<b>Saturday:</b>			
Kenwood TS 480 SAT	KE5UPM	Al Pringle	Lafayette, LA
Kenwood TH-D74A	W5CQG	Cecil Harper	Milam, TX
MFJ 4230 30 A Power Supply	WD6CQO	Bonnie	Nederland, TX
Baofeng UV-5R	WD5CFM	Francis Boudreaux	Thibodeaux, LA
Mobile Radio	KE5ZQK	James Farrar	Westlake, TX
\$25 ARRL Gift Certificate	WA5TQX	Richard Cutrer, SR	Loranger, TX
Fox Hunt (100 door prize tickets)	KI5EE	Kirby Comeaux, JR	Lake Charles, LA



## Northeast Louisiana Regional Ham RadioFest Monroe, Louisiana Saturday, April 29, 2017

**Location:** West Monroe Convention Center

**Doors open at:** 8:00 AM - til

**Talk-in:** 146.85 (no tone)

**Admission:** \$6.00

Tickets available at the door and include a chance at the grand prizes. Additional prize tickets also available for \$1 each, 6 tickets for \$5, or 25 tickets for \$20.

### Dealers and Vendors (as of 2/8/2017)

Palmetto Antenna

MCM Computers

CableHelp Antenna Company

### Setup for vendors and dealers on Friday

#### Tables:

Reserve your table today! Tables are \$10 each; electricity is an additional \$10.

You can click here to reserve your tables. You can also pay with PayPal.

If you have items you want to sell, registration for tables can be made at <http://twincityhams.org/tables>. If you wish, you can pay with PayPal.

#### Forums:

Louisiana Contest Club  
Others pending...

#### VE Testing:

VE testing starts sharp Saturday morning a 9:00 AM for new hams or upgrades. Make sure you have a photo ID, copy of CSCE and \$15.00 test fee.

#### Hamfest Grand Prizes:

**1st Prize:** \$500 Pre-paid Visa Gift Card

**2nd Prize:** \$250 Pre-paid Visa Gift Card

**3rd Prize:** \$100 Pre-paid Visa Gift Card

For more information and updates, go to: <http://twincityhams.org/hamfest.html>

Thanks and 73,  
Twin City Ham Club  
<http://twincityhams.org>



## NEW HF OPERATORS - THINGS TO DO

Consider starting a station notebook, paper or computer-based, if you've not done so already. Your notebook is the place to record information such as your station configuration, equipment settings, SWR readings, logging program settings, general observations -- anything related to your station. When you find a problem or solve a station problem, put it in the notebook. Specific things to remember from the last contest? Put it in the notebook. By consistently collecting and recording this information, you're creating a reference that can help you to save time when troubleshooting or getting set up for that once-a-year contest.

## New Louisiana SEC Appointments

On Mar 22, 2017 10:14 AM, "Adam Tamplain KD5LEH" <atamplain@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello all. This is to advise of recent changes in appointed staff positions.

#### ASECs:

Ed Mason KE5GMN, has been appointed as Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator - Operations Southeast

John Mark Robertson K5JMR, is now ASEC - Operations Northwest

Tommy Wells W5TGK, remains as ASEC Preparedness.

Ed Mason KE5GMN, will handle Regions 1, 2, 3, and 9. John Mark Robertson K5JMR, will handle Regions 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Region 9: Pat Mason KE5KMM, has been appointed as a Region 9 Local Emergency Coordinator for Tangipahoa Parish EOC.

Region 6: Scott Wetmore W5RTO, has been appointed as Assistant District Emergency Coordinator.

Marlin Thompson, KG5RPZ, has been appointed as a Region 6 Local Emergency Coordinator.

Stephen Neesley, KE5IAK, has resigned.

Please welcome these individuals into their new positions.

Thanks and 73,  
Adam KD5LEH  
LA ARES SEC



## PRIZE WINNER

Ramona Jobe KG5HNO (shown above) is the lucky prize winner of a Baofeng UV-5R hand held that was given away at the AARA Hamfest Banquet held on Saturday March 18, 2017 at the Lafayette Science Museum.

In order to qualify, you must be a paid up member in the AARA, attend the club general meetings, each time you attend the general meeting, your name and date is put into the hat.

**Congratulations**  
Ramona!

## Bayou Teche Black Bear Festival

Saturday April 22, 2017 1600Z-2200Z, W5BMC, Franklin, LA. Bayouland Emergency Amateur Radio Service - BEARS. 14.260 7.260. QSL. Jackie Price, 708 Front St., Morgan City, LA 70380. Downtown Franklin, LA. on the banks of the Bayou Teche with vintage motor boats sailing up and down the bayou

## Simple Hamshack Tools

By: Larry LeBlanc, KE5KJD

Most of us have limited budgets and survive with a minimal set of ham shack tools. Most have a multi-meter and some have an external power and SWR meter. However, most of us do have a HF transceiver, which is capable of sensing and measuring very weak RF signals. Armed with this knowledge, we can expand what we can do with our own transceiver. Two simple and inexpensive tools which can be made are a RF probe which can be used to detect sources of EMI within the shack and a RF current sensor which can measure RF current in a wire. Here I will describe how to construct these two tools for a total cost of under \$15 for the pair. Each will have a SO 239 (or PL 259) connector to connect to your rig and a short coax cable to the measuring device. These two probes were instrumental in achieving the noise profile at my station shown in the graph in the March issue of the LARC.

The RF probe I constructed consists of a small 4-5 inch loop of #10 insulated wire connected within a PVC handle with twisted pair wire (see Figure 1). I included a short length of RG58 coax within the handle with some ferrites to choke off some of the common mode RF and to isolate the person's hand. This is rigid enough to probe around components and cables without damaging the loop.

The RF current probe is similar (see Figure 2) but needs no handle since it will be looped around a wire or cable shield to measure currents. The probe consists of about 8 turns of small gauge wire around one half of a split ferrite large enough to fit around the largest cable you want to monitor.

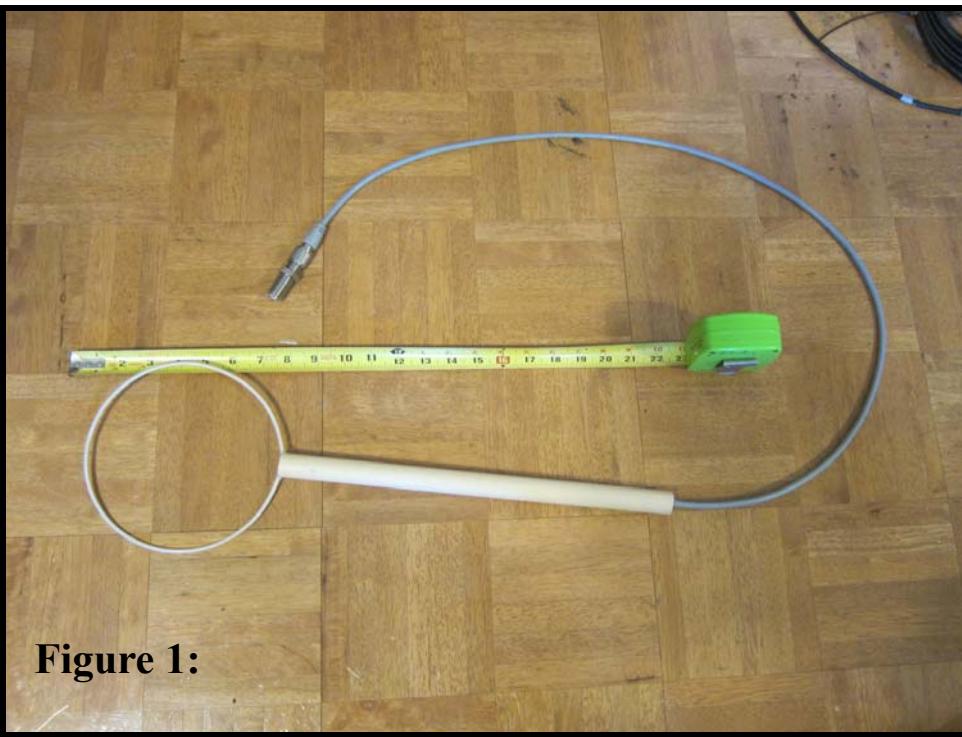


Figure 1:



Figure 2:

How can these be used productively?

By connecting the RF probe directly to your transceiver you have a weak antenna which can be detected by your radio. Since it is very small, it will not pick up any but very strong radio signals. You can put the loop near a suspected source of EMI like power supplies, wall wart power sources or other electronic equipment, including your transceiver. If you have a waterfall display on your setup, you should be able to detect noise traces on various bands.

By putting the RF current probe on the coax leading to your antenna, you can see if your antenna has significant common mode (CM) signals coming in to your operating position, which can produce "RF in the shack" and can also pick up noise sources from power lines and your neighbors. You can also monitor your own transmit signal if you have a second receiver connected to the probe.

The combination of these two measurements can then be used to reduce noise during operation from the many sources in your own home and shack. We do have an extensive presentation of using this technique which can be had at any of our ham meetings.

## MARCH 2017 AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
AARA Monday Night Net	4	76	Ø	128	KE5HSY Linda
Region 4 VHF ARES Net	4	55	Ø	186	KN5GRK Herman
Silent Key Memorial Net	5	47	Ø	75	KG5HNO Ramona
Youth Thursday Night Net	5	76	Ø	176	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

- Thomas A. Edison

## AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Linda Breaux KE5HSY is the new AARA Monday Night Manager and she will be setting up the net rotations in the future. Each Monday will have a rotating NCS as listed below. Here is the April 2017 rotation list.

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:	NCS
04/03/2017	7:00 PM	145.410 Lydia	NONE	Danny KD5JSM
04/10/2017	7:00 PM	443.000 W5DDL	103.5	Paul N5KNY
04/17/2017	7:00 PM	146.820 W5DDL	103.5	Eric KG5JHP
04/24/2017	7:00 PM	147.040 W5EXI	103.5	Chris KG5MCY

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8 - Central 103.5.

The April 2017 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:  
<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>



## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

4/3	KF5AHM	JAMES
4/6	KE5JXC	ARNOLD
4/7	KB1NRO	MICHAEL
4/8	KF5BET	GALEN
4/11	AB5SB	SKIP
4/11	N9QO	WILLIAM
4/13	N4ELM	DAVE
4/15	KG5AYK	ROBERT
4/16	N5DAL	MIKE
4/16	KF5KEL	RIC
4/22	KF5SEQ	JARED
4/18	KF5WP	ALBERT
4/21	KF5BEW	KF5BEW
4/30		DAVID BRUCE
5/6	W4HVH	JOHN
5/7	N5WE	CHARLES

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

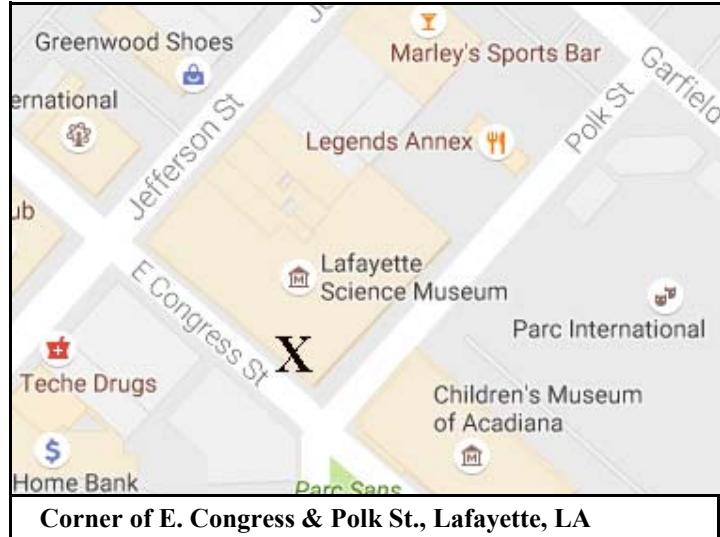


SUNDAY  
APRIL 16, 2017

Paul McCasland N5KNY  
[pmccasland@lafayettela.gov](mailto:pmccasland@lafayettela.gov)  
 or call 337-291-5460."



**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**  
**Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>**



Share the Fun -  
 Bring a Friend to be a  
 HAM !



**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday April 6 @ 7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**  
**Lafayette Science Museum**  
 Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

Join our **"Lunch Bunch"** each Wednesday around noon at the Golden Corral on Ambassador Caffery.

**COMPLIMENTARY  
 ISSUE**



## **Hamburger Steak with Onions and Gravy**

<http://allrecipes.com/recipe/78370/hamburger-steak-with-onions-and-gravy/>

### **Ingredients:**

1 pound ground beef	1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 egg	1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1/4 cup bread crumbs	1 cup thinly sliced onion
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper	2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt	1 cup beef broth
1/2 teaspoon onion powder	1 tablespoon cooking sherry
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder	1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt

### **Directions:**

1. In a large bowl, mix together the ground beef, egg, bread crumbs, pepper, salt, onion powder, garlic powder, and Worcestershire sauce. Form into 8 balls, and flatten into patties.
2. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Fry the patties and onion in the oil until patties are nicely browned, about 4 minutes per side. Remove the beef patties to a plate, and keep warm.
3. Sprinkle flour over the onions and drippings in the skillet. Stir in flour with a fork, scraping bits of beef off of the bottom as you stir. Gradually mix in the beef broth and sherry. Season with seasoned salt. Simmer and stir over medium-low heat for about 5 minutes, until the gravy thickens. Turn heat to low, return patties to the gravy, cover, and simmer for another 15 minutes.



## **FCC Information Service**

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or: [ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

FCC Website: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>  
 New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>  
 The mailing address to the FCC is:  
 Federal Communications Commission,  
 445 12th Street SW  
 Washington, DC 20554